

**CLAIMS**

Therefore, having thus described the invention, at least the following is claimed:

1        1.        A support attachment for mounting work implements on a ladder, the ladder  
2        including a pair of upwardly extending substantially parallel side rails spaced from each  
3        other and steps extending horizontally between said side rails to enable a person to climb  
4        the ladder, said side rails having opposed front and rear surfaces, said support attachment  
5        comprising:

6                a step engaging means for extending across and resting on a step of a ladder;

7                a side rail engaging means extending from said step engaging means for engaging  
8        the rear surface of the side rails of a ladder above the step engaged by said step engaging  
9        means; and

10               a support structure for supporting work implements, said support structure  
11        extending from said step engaging means for supporting said support structure at the  
12        front surfaces of said side rails of the ladder.

1        2.        The support attachment for a ladder as described in claim 1, wherein:  
2                said support structure for supporting work implements comprises a U-shaped  
3        frame including parallel spaced side legs and a base leg extending between said side legs,  
4        said base leg joined to said step engaging means, and  
5                a rectilinear spool support rod having opposed ends is releasably mounted to said  
6        side legs of said U-shaped frame;  
7                whereby spools of wire can be rotatably mounted on said spool support rod at the  
8        front of the side rails of a ladder.

1        3.        The support attachment of claim 2, wherein said U-shaped frame, said step  
2        engaging means and said side rail engaging means are of rigid, one piece construction.

1        4.        The support attachment of claim 1, wherein:

2                said side rail engaging means comprises a rectilinear bar having opposed ends;

3                said step engaging means comprises a pair of substantially parallel bars extending  
4        from said rectilinear bar to said support structure, and

5                said support structure comprises a U-shaped frame having a base leg with opposed  
6        end portions, a pair of parallel side legs extending from the end portions of said base leg,  
7        and said base leg connected intermediate its end portions to said parallel bars of said step  
8        engaging means; and

9                a rectilinear spool support rod having opposed ends supported by said parallel side  
10       legs of said support structure.

1        5.        The support attachment of claim 4, wherein step engaging means, said side rail  
2        engaging means and said support structure occupy a common plane.

1        6.        The support structure of claim 4, wherein said step engaging means, said side rail  
2        engaging means, and said support structure are of rigid construction.

1        7.        The support structure of claim 1, wherein said step engaging means, said side rail  
2        engaging means and said support structure define oppositely facing c-shaped recesses  
3        which register about the side rails of a step ladder.

1 8. The support structure of claim 1, wherein said step engaging means comprises a  
2 pair of substantially parallel spaced apart bars extending from said side rail engaging  
3 means for resting at spaced intervals on a step of a step ladder.

1 9. A method for storing and dispensing spools of electrical wire on a wire caddy,  
2 wherein said wire caddy is comprised of a support bar connected to a pair of parallel  
3 spacer bars, said spacer bars further connected to a base leg having two parallel legs  
4 configured at distal ends thereof and a spool support rod positioned between said parallel  
5 legs, comprising the steps of:

6 suspending said spool support rod between said distal ends of said parallel legs;

7 securing said spool support rod to said distal end of each of said parallel legs with  
8 a suitable fastening means; and

9 mounting spools of wire onto said spool support rod.

1 10. The method of claim 9, further comprising the steps of:

2 positioning said wire caddy on a ladder wherein said spacer bars rest upon a step  
3 of said ladder; and

4 orienting said spool support rod horizontally such that said spools of wire project  
5 outwardly from said ladder.

1 11. The method of claim 10, further comprising the step of configuring said support  
2 bar, pair of spacer bars and base leg so as to form oppositely facing c-shaped recesses,  
3 each for registering about a side rail of said ladder.

1 12. The method of claim 9, wherein the spool support rod is suspended between said  
2 parallel legs by positioning said spool support rod through openings in said distal ends of  
3 said parallel legs.

1 13. The method of claim 9, wherein said spool support rod is secured to an end of  
2 each of said parallel legs by locking pins.

1 14. The method of claim 9, wherein said spools of wire are mounted onto said spool  
2 support rod comprising the steps of:

3 removing one end of said spool support rod from a secured position at the distal  
4 end of a parallel leg by disengaging said fastening means and sliding said spool support  
5 rod through an opening in said distal end of said parallel legs;

6 threading said spooled wire onto said spool support rod; and

7 securing said spool support rod back into position between said parallel legs.

1 15. A wire caddy attachable to a ladder, comprising:

2 a U-shaped frame having a base leg and opposed parallel legs mounted to said  
3 base leg;

4 a spool support rod supported at its ends by said parallel legs;

5 a support bar; and

6 a pair of spacer bars interconnecting said U-shaped frame to said support bar.

1 16. The wire caddy of claim 15, wherein the U-shaped frame is of rigid construction  
2 and has sufficient strength to support said wire caddy when fully-loaded with spooled  
3 wire.

1 17. The wire caddy of claim 15, wherein said spool support rod is secured between  
2 said parallel legs such that it does not inadvertently detach from said U-shaped frame  
3 during use.

1 18. The wire caddy of claim 17, further comprising spools of wire threaded onto said  
2 spool support rod such that said spools of wire are free to rotate about said spool support  
3 rod during use.

1 19. The wire caddy of claim 15, wherein said spacer bars extending from the support  
2 bar to said U-shaped frame are sized and spaced from each other to rest upon a step of a  
3 ladder.

1 20. The wire caddy of claim 19, further comprising spacer bars constructed and  
2 arranged so that when said spacer bars are placed on a step of a ladder said spool support  
3 rod is oriented horizontally and said spooled wire projects outwardly from said ladder.

1 21. The wire caddy of claim 15, wherein each end of said support bar is constructed  
2 and arranged so that the ends of the support bar engage a rear surface of a side rail of a  
3 ladder at a position directly above a step engaged by said spacer bars.

1        22.     The wire caddy of claim 15, wherein said spacer bars are intermediately  
2        positioned from each distal end of said support bar and said base leg so as to define  
3        oppositely facing c-shaped recesses for engagement about the side rails of a ladder.

1        23.     The wire caddy of claim 22, further comprising the positioning of said recesses  
2        about each side rail corresponding to a location of said spacer bars across a step of said  
3        ladder.